

Accessions

153.441

Shelf No.

G.4072.18

Barton Library.

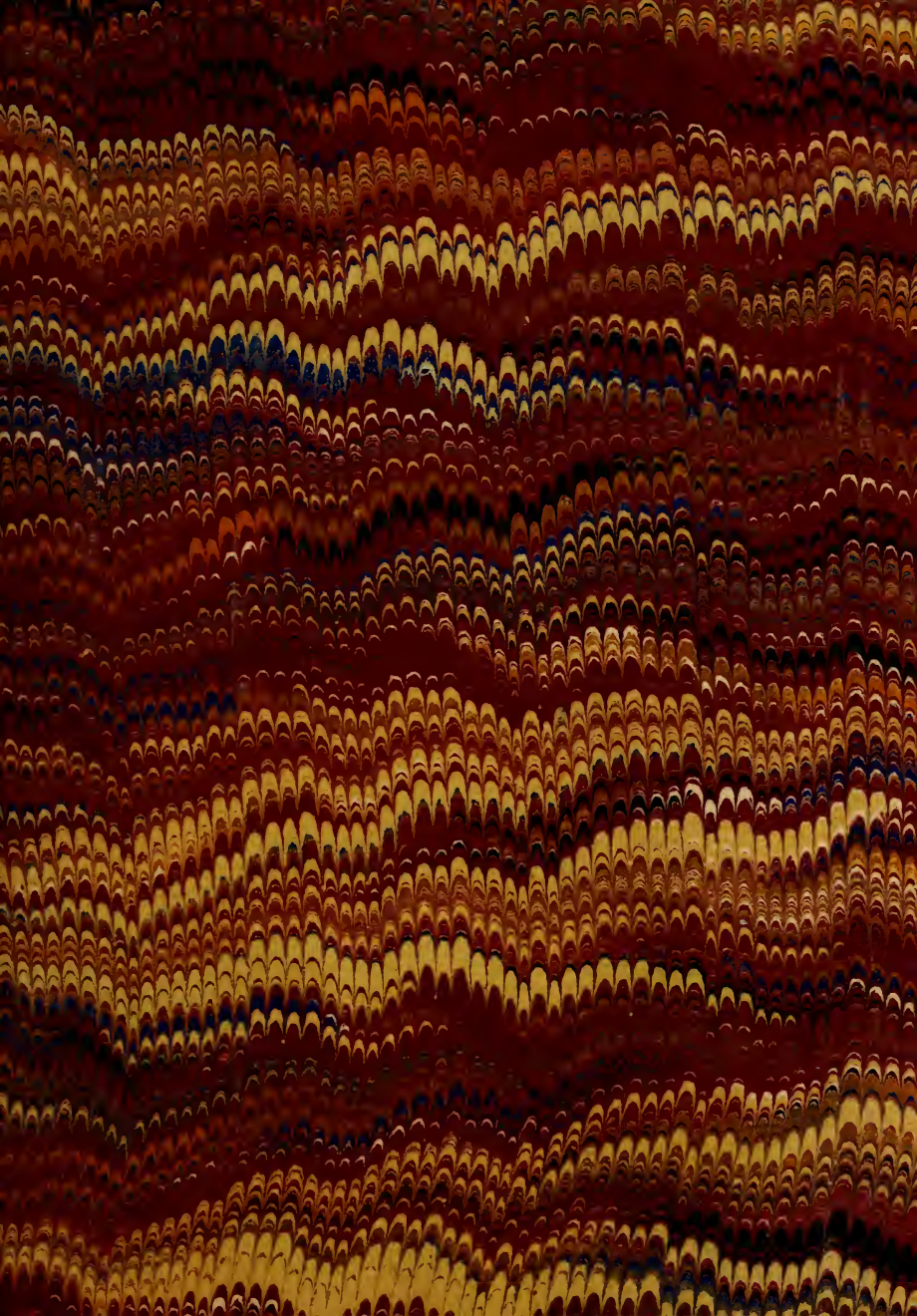


Thomas Pennant Barton.

Boston Public Library.

Received, May, 1873.

Not to be taken from the Library.



O. 16. o. 279 Shakespeare. The Waking Man's Dreame, a fragment from a
Sothley, June book printed about 1636 4to.
13, 1650. * * This fragment contains the whole of the story, which is
that of the Induction to the Taming of the Shrew. It is
supposed to be a reprint of the lost story-book of Edwards.
See the Papers of the Shakespeare Society. *vol. 2. 4to. 1.*

153 441

May 1873 59



THE
WAKING
Mans dreame.

The Fifth Event.



HE Greek proverbe saith, that
a man is but the dreame of a
shaddow, or the shaddow of a
dreame; is there then any thing
more vaine then a shadow?
which is nothing in it selfe, be-
ing but a privation of light fra-
med by the opposition of a thicke body unto a lu-
minous: is there any thing more frivolous then a
dreame? which hath no subsistence but in the hol-
lownesse of a sleeping braine, and which to speake
properly is nothing but a meere gathering together
of Chimericall Images: and this is it which maketh
an ancient say, that we are but dust and shadow;
our life is compared unto those, who sleeping
dreame that they eate, and waking find themselves
empty,

Lib. Labox

60 *The waking mans Dreame.*

Empty, and hungry? and who is he that doth not find this experimented in himselfe; as often as he revolves in his memory the time which is past: who can in these passages of this world distinguish the things which have beene done, from those that have beene dreamed? vanities, delights, riches, pleasures, and all are past, and gone, are they not dreames? what hath our pride, and pompe availed us? say those poore miserable soules shut up in the infernall prisons, where is our bravery become, and the glorious shew of our magnificence? all these things are passed like a flying shadow, or as a post who hastens to his journeyes end. This is it which caused the ancient Comicke Poet to say that the world was nothing but an universall Comedy, because all the passages thereof serves but to make the wisest laugh, and according to the opinion of *Democritus* all that is acted on this great Theater of the whole world when it is ended differs in nothing from what hath bin acted on a Players stage; the mirrour which I will heere set before your eyes will so lively expresse all these verities, and so truly shew the vanities of the greatnesse, and opulencies of the earth. That although in these Events I gather not either examples not farre distant from our times, or that have beene published by any other writer, yet I beleieve that the serious pleasantnesse of this one will supply it's want of novelty, and that it's repetition will neither bee unfruitfull nor unpleasing.

In the time that *Phillip* Duke of *Burgundy* (who by the gentlenesse, and curteousnesse of his carriage

age

The making mans Dreame. 61

age purchasse the name of good) guided the reines of the country of *Flanders*. This Prince who was of an humour pleasing, and full of judicious goodnesse, rather then silly simplicity used pastimes, which for their singularity are commonly called the pleasures of Princes: after this manner he no lesse shewed the quaintnesse of his wit, then his prudence.

Being in *Bruxelles* with all his Court, and having at his table discoursed amply enough of the vanities, and greatnesse of this world, he let each one say his pleasure on this subject, whereon was alledged grave sentences, and rare examples; walking towards the evening in the Towne, his head full of divers thoughts, he found a Tradesman lying in a corner sleeping very soundly, the fumes of *Bacchus* having surcharged his braine. I describe this mans drunkennesse in as good manner as I can to the credit of the party. This vice is so common in both the superiour and inferiour *Germany*, that divers making glory, and vaunting of their dexterity in this art, encrease their praise thereby, and hold it for a brave act. The good Duke to give his followers an example of the vanity of all the magnificence with which he was invironed, devised a meanes farre lesse dangerous, then that which *Dionysius*, the Tyrant used towards *Democles*, and which in pleasantnesse beares a marvellous utility. He caused his men to carry away this sleeper, with whom as with a blocke they might doe what they would, without awaking him, he caused them to carry him into one of the sumptuousest parts of his Pallace,

62 *The making mans Dreame.*

Pallace, into a chamber most state-like furnished, and makes them lay him in a rich bed. They presently strip him of his bad cloathes, and put him on a very fine, and cleane shirt, in stead of his own, which was foule and filthy, they let him sleepe in that place at his ease, and whilest hee settles his drinke, the Duke prepares the pleasanteest pastime that can be imagined.

In the morning this drunkard being awake, drawes the curtaines of this brave rich bed, sees himselfe in a chamber adorned like a Paradiſe, he considers the rich furnitvre with an amazement such as you may imagine, he beleeves not his eyes but layes his fingers on them, and feeling them open, yet perswades himselfe they are shut by sleep, and that all that he sees is but a pure dreame.

As soone as he was knowne to be awake, in comes the officers of the Dukes house, who were instructed by the Duke what they should do, there were pages bravely apparelled Gentlemen of the chamber, Gentleman waiters, and the High Chamberlaine, who all in faire order, and without laughing bring cloathing for this new guest, they honour him with the same great reverences, as if hee were a Sovereigne Prince, they serve him bare-headed, and aske him what suite hee will please to weare that day.

This fellow affrighted at the first, beleevving these things to be inchantment, or dreames, reclaimed by these submissions, tooke heart, and grew bold, and setting a good face on the matter, chused amongst all the apparell that they presented unto

The waking mans Dreame. 63

to him, that which he liked best, and which hee thought to be fittest for him, he is accommodated like a King, and served with such ceremonies, as he had never seene before, and yet beheld them without saying any thing, and with an assured countenance. This done, the greatest Nobleman in the Dukes Court enters the chamber with the same reverence, and honour to him, as if he had been their Sovereigne Prince; (*Phillip* with Princely delight beholds this play from a private place) divers of purpose petitioning him for pardons, which hee grants with such a countenance, and gravity, as if he had had a Crowne on his head all his life time.

Being risen late, and dinner time approaching, they asked him if he were pleased to have the tables covered, he likes that very well; the table is furnished, where he is set alone, and under a rich Canopie he eates with the same ceremony, which was observed at the Dukes meales, he made good cheere, and chewed with all his teeth, but only drank with more moderation, then he could have wisht, but the Majesty which he represented made him refraine.

All taken away, he was entertained with new, and pleasant things, they led him to walke about the great Chambers, Galleries, and Gardens of the Pallace (for all this merriment was played within the gates they being shut only for recreation to the Duke, and the principall of his Court) they shewed him all the richest, and most pleasant things therein, and talked to him thereof, as if
they

64 *The waking mans Dreame.*

they had all beene his, which he heard with an attention, and contentment beyond measure, not saying one word of his base condition, or declaring that they tooke him for another: They made him passe the afternoone in all kind of sports, musicke, dancing, and a Comedy spent some part of the time. They talked to him of some State matters, whereunto he answered according to his skill, and like a right Twelfetide King.

Super time approaching they aske this new created Prince, if he would please to have the Lords, and Ladies of his Court to sup, and feast with him, whereat he seemed something unwilling, as if hee would not abase his dignity unto such familiarity; neverthelisse counterfeiting humanity, and affability, he made signes, that he condescended thereunto: he then towards night was led with sound of Trumpets and Hoboyes into a faire hall, where long Tables were set, which were presently covered with divers sorts of dainty meates, the Torches shined there in every corner, and made a day in the midst of a night: the Gentlemen, and Gentlewomen were set in fine order, and the Prince at the upper end in a higher seat: the service was magnificent; the musicke of voyces and instruments fed the eare whilst mouthes found their food in the dishes, never was the imaginary Duke at such a feast; carousses begin after the manner of the Country; the Prince is assaulted on all sides, as the Owle is assaulted by all the Birdes, when he begins to soare: not to seeme uncivill he would doe the like to his good, and faithfull subjects;

The waking mans Dreame. 65

jects; they serve him with very strong wine, good *Hipocras* which hee swallowed downe in great draughts, and frequently redoubled, so that charged with so many extraordinaryes, he yeelded to deaths cousin german sleep, which closed his eyes, stopt his eares, and made him loose the use of reason, and all his other senses.

Then the right Duke, who had put himselfe among the throng of his Officers, to have the pleasure of this mummerie, commanded that this sleeping man should bee stript out of his brave cloathes, and cloathed againe in his old ragges, and so sleeping carried, and layd in the same place, where he was taken vp the night before, this was presently done, and there did he snort all the night long, not taking any hurt either by the hardnesse of the stones, or the night ayre, so well was his stomacke filled with good preservatives.

Being awakened in the morning by some passenger, or it may bee by some, that the good Duke *Philip* had thereto appointed: ha, said he, my friends, what have you done? you have rob'd mee of a Kingdome, and have taken mee out of the sweetest, and happiest dreame, that ever man could have fallen into, then very well remembering all the particulars of what had passed the day before, hee related unto them from point to point, all that had happened unto him, still thinking it assuredly to bee a dreame, being returned home to his house, hee entertaines his wife, neighbours, and friends with this his

F

dreame,

66 *The making mans Dreame.*

dreame, as hee thought, the truth whereof being at last published by the mouthes of those Courtiers, who had beene present at this pleasant recreation, the good man could not beleeeve it, thinking that for sport they had framed this history, upon his dreame: but when Duke *Philip* who would have the full contentment of this pleasant trick, had shewed him the bed, wherein hee lay, the cloathes, which he had worne; the persons, who had served him; the Hall, wherein hee had eaten; the Gardens, and Galleries, wherein hee had walked; hardly could hee be induced to beleeeve what hee saw, imagining that all this was meere inchantment, and illusion.

The Duke used some liberality towards him for to helpe him in the poverty of his family, and taking an occasion thereon to make an Oration unto his Courtiers concerning the vanity of this worlds honours, hee told them, that all, that ambitious persons seeke with so much industry, is but smoake, and a meere dreame, and that they are stricken with that pleasant folly of the *Athenians* who imagined all the riches, that arrived by shipping in the haven of *Athen*s to be his, and that all the Marchants were but his Factors: his friends getting him cured by a skilfull Physitian of the debility of his brain, in lieu of giving them thanks for this good office, he reviled them, saying that whereas he was rich in conceit, they had by this cure made him poore, and miserable in effect.

Harpasse a foole that *Seneca*s wife kept, and whose

The waking mans Dreame. 67

whose pleasant imagination this grave Phyloſopher doth largely relate, being growne blind could not perſwade her ſelfe that ſhe was ſo, but continually complained, that the houſe wherein ſhe dwelt was dark, that they would not open the windowes, and that they hindred her from ſetting light, to make her beleeeve ſhe could ſee nothing, hereupon this great Stoick makes this fine conſideration, that every vicious man is like unto this ſoole, who although he be blind in his paſſion, yet thinks not himſelfe to be ſo, caſting all his defect on falſe ſurmiſes, whereby he ſeeks not only to have his ſinne worthy of excuſe, and pardon, but even of praiſe, the ſame ſay the covetous, ambitious, and voluptuous perſons in defence of their imperfections, but in fine (as the Pſalmiſt ſaith) all that muſt paſſe away, and the images thereof come to nothing, as the dreame of him that awaketh from ſleepe.

If a bucket of water be as truly water, as all the ſea, the difference only remaining in the quantity, not in the quality, why ſhall we not ſay, that our poore *Brabander* was a Sovereigne Prince, for the ſpace of foure and twenty houres; being that he received all the honours, and commodities thereof, how many Kings, and Popes have not laſted longer, but have dyed on the very day of their Elections or Coronations? As for thoſe other pompes, which have laſted longer, what are they elſe, but longer dreames? This vanity of worldly things is a great ſting to a well compoſed ſoule to helpe it forward towards the heavenly kingdome.

For ſp
ye



THE OLD MAN

passionate in Love.

The Sixth Event.



It is a thing seldome seene for old men to goe to warre, much lesse to become amorous. *Mars*, and *Venus* (two deities spoken of by the Poets) are irreconcilably angry with old men, because they are dismissed, as it were, from their service, I grant there are many couragious old men, but when strength failes, wherto serves courage? As there are white Swannes which draw the Chariot of the Goddesse of Cyprus, so there are likewise old men, who enter into passions scarce pardonable in those that are young: but if in deeds of armes these men commit many faults; what follies doe they not commit, when this abortive called love makes them grow









